



City of San Diego
Development Services Department
Plan Review Division
Permit Center • 1222 First Avenue • MS-401
San Diego, CA 92101
(619) 236-6250

Building Newsletter 15-2

Roof Slopes

Interpretations of State and Local Building Codes
1994 Uniform Building Code: Chapter 15
Revision Date: January 1996

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I. Roof Slopes

Table Nos. 15-B-1 and 15-B-2 of the Uniform Building Code require the following minimum roof slopes:

Asphalt shingles 2 in 12
Wood shingles 3 in 12
Wood shakes 4 in 12

II. Minimum Requirements

The following requirements must be met in order to use the above minimum roof slopes.

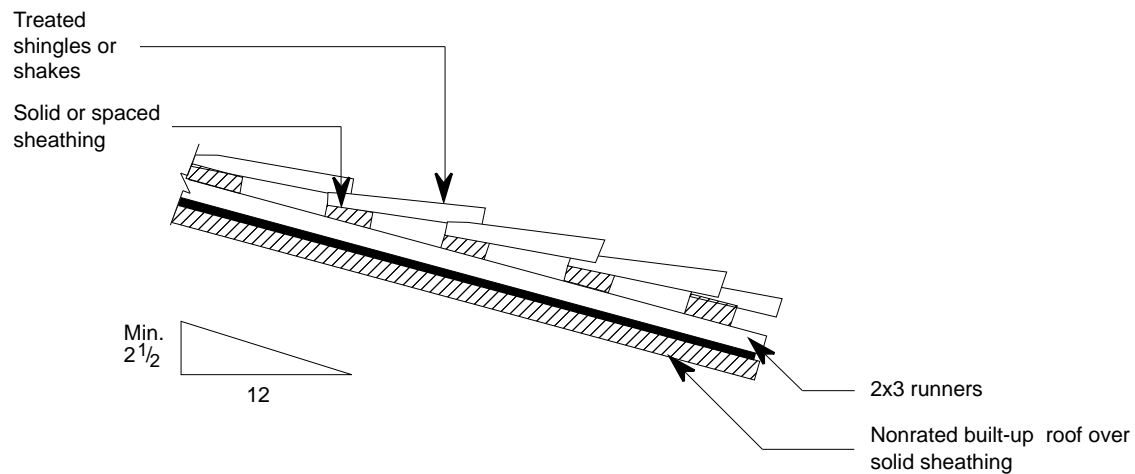
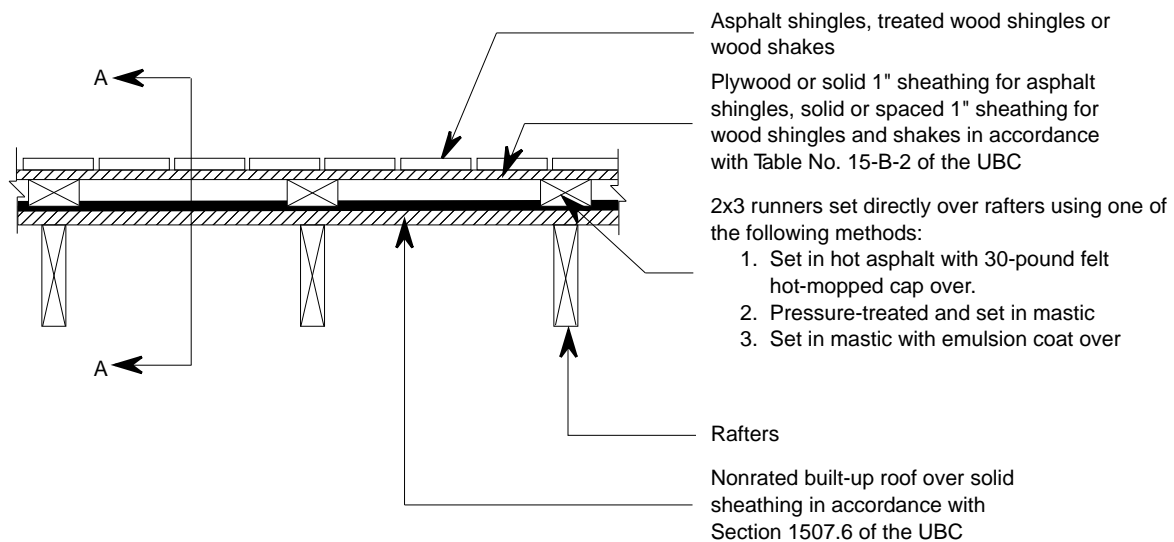
A. Asphalt strip shingles may be installed on slopes as low as 2 inches in 12 inches in a temperate climate, provided the shingles are approved self-sealing or are hand-sealed and are installed with an underlayment consisting of two layers of nonperforated Type 15 felt applied shingle fashion. Only solid sheathing is permitted. See Table No. 15-B-1 for severe climate requirements and for relaxation of requirements when roof slope is 4:12 and over.

B. Wood shingles must be treated as for a Class C roof covering rating and may be installed on slopes as low as 3 inches in 12 inches in a temperate climate with no requirements for underlayment provided such shingles are installed with a maximum weather exposure per

Table No. 15-C. Solid or spaced sheathing is permitted. See Table No. 15-B-2 for severe climate requirements.

C. Wood shakes must be treated as for a Class C roof covering rating and may be installed on slopes of not less than 3 inches in 12 inches when approved by the building official and when an underlayment of not less than nonperforated Type 15 felt is installed. Wood shakes installed on slopes of not less than 4 inches in 12 inches are permitted in a temperate climate with no requirements for underlayment. Temperate climates require an 18-inch-wide interlayment of Type 30 felt shingled between each course for all slopes. Solid or spaced sheathing is permitted. See Table No. 15-B-2 for severe climate requirements; only solid sheathing is permitted in this instance. All wood shakes are to be installed with a maximum weather exposure per Table No. 15-C.

D. Asphalt shingles, wood shingles and wood shakes may be installed on a nonrated built-up roof over solid sheathing with a slope of not less than 2½ inches in 12 inches provided the roof construction complies with that shown in Figure 1. Wood shingles and shakes must be treated as for a Class C roof covering rating with a maximum exposure to weather as indicated in Table No. 15-C for a slope of 3 inches in 12 inches.

Figure 1/Installation of shingles or shakes over a nonrated built-up roof**Section A-A**